

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1-20. Claims 1-20 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 10 are independent claims.

In the recent Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1-4, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wollmershauser et al. Claims 5-7, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wollmershauser et al. The indication by the Examiner that Claims 10-20 were allowable over the prior art of record is noted with appreciation.

Applicant will advance arguments hereinbelow to illustrate the manner in which the presently claimed invention is patentably distinguishable from the cited and applied prior art. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 by positively reciting that the at least one cable connector is a female-to-female cable connector. This recitation clearly distinguishes the claimed embodiment over the applied prior art reference to Wollmershauser et al.

Wollmershauser et al. discloses a coaxial cable shield filter having a housing with an input connector and an output connector. The input connector is on a first side of the housing and the output connector is on the opposite side of the housing. Further, Wollmershauser et al. explicitly states that the input connector is a *female coaxial connector*, and the output connector is a *male coaxial connector* (emphasis added). Wollmershauser et al. discloses that between the input connector and the output connector (i.e., contained within the housing), a double choke filter is disposed, for attenuating spurious or secondary RF interference signals carried in the shielding of

the coaxial cable. Thus, the structure of the device realistically described in Wollmershauser et al. fails to anticipate independent Claim 1 because Wollmershauser et al. does not disclose at least one female-to-female cable connector disposed in a corresponding access port through the housing. The Examiner alleges that Wollmershauser et al. discloses a female-to-female connector at col. 5, lines 15-40. However, a careful reading of the applied patent clearly reveals that the only disclosure in Wollmershauser et al. is a female input connector to the filter, and a *male* output connector (emphasis added). Wollmershauser et al. does not anticipate independent Claim 1, as amended, nor does the applied reference to Wollmershauser et al. render the instant claim obvious within the meaning of 35 USC 103 because modifying the device disclosed in Wollmershauser et al. in order to arrive at Applicant's claimed embodiment, would literally destroy the structure and purpose of the reference device. Applicant respectfully submits that the applied prior art reference to Wollmershauser et al. is neither anticipatory, nor sufficient to render the structure defined by amended independent Claim 1 obvious. In the absence of any other teaching, aside from Applicant's own disclosure, Claim 1, as amended, is allowable over the applied and cited prior art of record. A Notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

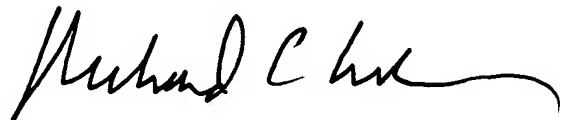
Applicant respectfully submits that for at least these reasons, amended independent Claim 1, and Claims 2-9, dependent therefrom, are allowable, as are Claims 10-20 over the prior art applied of record.

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For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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